



Warren W. Hyer
Executive Director, Central Ohio Symphony

Warren W. Hyer is executive director of the Central Ohio Symphony based in Delaware, Ohio. During his tenure, the Symphony has grown from a volunteer community group to a 65-member professional ensemble known for its innovative programming and its engagement with the community outside of the concert hall.

Warren created the “Reconnecting” program, using therapeutic drumming in juvenile and adult mental health courts. This innovative program has received two League/Getty Fund Community Investments grants. He has presented sessions for the Ohio Supreme Court Specialized Dockets conference and the national conference of the League of American Orchestra.

Warren is a board member of KV 265, a Chicago based non-profit devoted to blending science and art. He is also a member of the Mental Health Dockets Joint Advisory Committee for the combined courts of Delaware County, Ohio.

A 1976 graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance, he has spent the last thirty-plus years performing professionally throughout Ohio, including as percussionist with the Mansfield Symphony since 1981 and as percussionist and now timpanist with the Central Ohio Symphony since its inception in 1978. In addition, he has taught and lectured extensively on percussion.



Sarah Johnson
Director, Weill Music Institute

As Director of Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, Sarah Johnson is responsible for developing and overseeing all educational and community activities for the historic New York concert hall. WMI’s programs annually serve over 400,000 children, students, teachers, parents, young music professionals, and adults in the New York City metropolitan area, across the United States, and around the world.

During her time at Carnegie Hall, Sarah has led WMI’s first major strategic planning initiative, including the development of a digital strategy for the department, as well as a clear vision and priorities for its work. Her team has launched numerous new initiatives including the award-winning Musical Connections program, serving people in acute need in healthcare settings, correctional facilities including juvenile

League of American Orchestras

justice centers, homeless shelters, and senior service organizations; and the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, which recently launched to critical acclaim.

She has also overseen the expansion of the Link Up program, which currently partners with 58 orchestras in four countries, supporting those orchestras at no cost with the resources they need to deliver this high quality education program in their own communities.

In the fall of 2012, Musical America named Sarah one of the 30 Rising Stars in the Performing Arts under the age of 40. She is the 2013 American Express NGen Leadership Award winner, an honor given each year to one accomplished leader under the age of 40 who has demonstrated significant impact in addressing society's critical needs.

Prior to joining Carnegie Hall in April 2007, Sarah served as Director of Education and Community Partnerships at The Philadelphia Orchestra. She has served on the faculty of the American Symphony Orchestra League's Orchestra Leadership Academy and presented at the first International Teaching Artists Conference in Oslo, Norway; the National Performing Arts Convention; as well as on various panels including the Dana Foundation, New York State Alliance for Arts Education panel, and as keynote speaker for Chorus America and the National Keyboard Pedagogy Conference.

Sarah has also worked as a teaching artist with the New York Philharmonic and Lincoln Center Institute. A graduate of the Juilliard School, she received her bachelor's and master's degrees in oboe performance, and she was a founding member of Ariel Winds.